MEMO TO: The University Community
FROM: Ralph W. Ruffner, Acting President

The tradition of our holiday season is to look ahead to the promise of the events we commemorate. It is in this spirit that we would offer you our best wishes for a joyful, refreshing time of celebration in the coming days.

As best we can, let us put behind us the trials and sorrows of the recent past. Over the years, you have been part of the effort that has built well an institution that stands as the brightest beacon of hope to all the citizens who look to us for strength of mind and courage of heart.

Finally, let us look forward to the kind of exhilaration and energy that comes with new leadership. We will be experiencing this both in the nation, the state, and here at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville. With firm resolve, we can each in our own way make our contribution to the shape of the promise of the future.

So to you and all who are dear to you we offer our warmest wishes for the highest raising of the spirits the coming days have to offer.